

AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

Please replace the first paragraph on page 8, which bridges pages 7-8, with the following new paragraph:

--The first step in isolating the *gpm* gene or other genes from *C. glutamicum* is to construct a gene library of this microorganism in *E. coli*. The construction of gene libraries is documented in generally well-known textbooks and handbooks. Examples which may be mentioned are the textbook by Winnacker entitled *From Genes to Clones, Introduction to Gene Technology* (Verlag Chemie, Weinheim, Germany, 1990) or the handbook by Sambrook *et al.* entitled *Molecular Cloning, A Laboratory Manual* (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 1989). A very well-known gene library is that of the *E. coli* K-12 strain W3110, which was constructed by Kohara *et al.* (*Cell* 50, 495-508 (1987)) in λ vectors. Bathe *et al.* (*Molecular and General Genetics* 252, 255-265, 1996) describe a gene library of *C. glutamicum* ATCC13032, which was constructed using cosmid vector SuperCos I (Wahl *et al.*, 1987, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 84, 2160-2164) in the *E. coli* K-12 strain NM554 (Raleigh *et al.*, 1988, *Nucleic Acids Research* 16, 1563-1575). Bormann *et al.*, 1992, (*Molecular Microbiology* 6(3), 317-326) in turn describe a gene library of *C. glutamicum* ATCC13032 using cosmid pHc79 (Hohn and Collins, *Gene* 11, 291-298 (1980)). A gene library of *C. glutamicum* in *E. coli* can also be constructed using plasmids like pBR322 (Bolivar, *Life Sciences* 25, 807-818 (1979)) or pUC9 (Viera *et al.*, 1982, *Gene* 19, 259-268). Restriction- and recombination-defective *E. coli* strains are particularly suitable as hosts, an example being the strain DH5.alpha.mcr, which has been described by Grant *et al.* (*Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* 87 (1990) 4645-4649). The long DNA fragments cloned with the aid of cosmids can then in turn be subcloned into common vectors suitable for sequencing, and subsequently sequenced, e.g. as described by Sanger *et al.* (*Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 74, 5463-5467, 1977).--